

[FR Doc. 97-32359 Filed 12-10-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 5000-04-C

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); FY 98 DRG Updates

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Correction.

SUMMARY: This notice makes corrections to the FY 98 DRG Updates published in the **Federal Register** on October 30, 1997 (62 FR 587110). Change "discharges" to read "admissions" in the following areas:

Page 58712

First column, second paragraph, section C.

First column, third paragraph, section D.

Second column, first paragraph, section H.

Dated: December 5, 1997.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 97-32360 Filed 12-10-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Notice of Availability of Scope of Statement for Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement: Treatment of Non-Stockpile Chemical Warfare Materiel

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Scope of Statement (SoS) for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) on the treatment of non-stockpile chemical warfare material (CWM) is available. The SoS is an important component of the PEIS process providing direction for the PEIS preparers.

ADDRESSES: To obtain copies of the SoS, contact Ms. Louise Dyson, Public Outreach and Information Officer, Office of the Project Manager for Non-Stockpile Chemical Material, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21010-5401 or by phone at 410-671-3445 or fax at 410-612-8737.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Louise Dyson at the above address and phone number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the PEIS was published in the **Federal Register** on October 18, 1996 (FR 61 54421-54424), with a correction to that notice being published on November 13, 1996 (FR 61 58281). In the NOI, the Army invited interested agencies and the public to assist in determining the scope of the PEIS by providing comments by February 28, 1997, on the alternative strategies and important issues affecting the environment that should be addressed. The SoS describes the scoping process and the determinations reached by the Army's Non-Stockpile Chemical Material Program (NSCMP) as a result of the scoping process. The following items are included on the SoS:

1. Description and discussion of the proposed action and alternative strategies to be evaluated in the Draft PEIS;
2. Description and discussion of the major socioeconomic and environmental issues to be addressed in the Draft PEIS;
3. Preliminary schedule for the PEIS, including the approximate time frame in which the Draft PEIS and Final PEIS are expected to be made available to the public;
4. Discussion of the roles and responsibilities of different organizations involved in preparing, reviewing and approving the Draft PEIS;
5. Preliminary outline of the Draft PEIS that will be used in guiding its preparation;
6. Description of the actions undertaken by the NSCMP to involve interested organizations and the public in the PEIS scoping process; and
7. A summary of the comments received during the public scoping process and the NSCMP's consideration of those comments.

Changes to the proposed action and preliminary alternative strategies identified in the NOI have been made as a result of the public scoping process and these changes are reflected in the SoS.

The PEIS proposed action that will be evaluated is to select one or more strategies for the treatment of non-stockpile CWM utilizing transportable chemical treatment systems. The decision to be made by the Army, and for which the PEIS analysis will address environmentally, is whether transportable chemical treatment systems should be further developed and made available for deployment.

The preliminary alternative strategies identified in the NOI were as follows:

1. On-site chemical treatment of CWM with off-set destruction of the resultant

wastes either by thermal destruction or another disposal method;

2. On-site chemical treatment and on-site destruction/disposal of chemical treatment wastes;

3. On-site thermal destruction;

4. Off-site chemical treatment and/or thermal destruction or another disposal method; and

5. No action, which was defined as a continuation of the current methods for handling these types of CWM, including safely packing, shipping and storing CWM at permitted locations.

The alternative strategies that will be analyzed in the PEIS include the following:

1. On-site Strategy—further develop transportable chemical treatment systems and make the systems available for the treatment of non-stockpile CWM at the site where the CWM may be located;

2. Off-site Strategy—further develop transportable chemical treatment systems, transport non-stockpile CWM from where it is located to an off-site location, and make the systems available for the treatment of CWM at the off-site location; and

3. No Action Strategy—discontinue development of the prototype transportable chemical treatment systems and continue to store non-stockpile CWM until other systems can be made available for treatment of non-stockpile CWM. Storage of non-stockpile CWM will occur on site unless precluded by human health, safety, and environmental regulatory requirements.

The PEIS evaluation will be directed at determining those environmental and socioeconomic conditions under which each of the strategies could be implemented. The revised alternative strategies are those that are applicable to any site with non-stockpile CWM. The application of these strategies will be further considered in subsequent site-specific analyses should the Army decide to proceed with the transportable chemical treatment systems.

The PEIS will be prepared using an approach in which the affected environment will be described in terms of a range of environmental and socioeconomic conditions that could occur at any site or location where non-stockpile CWM may be present or where transportable chemical treatment systems could be utilized. Based on these ranges, the PEIS will evaluate whether or not adverse environmental and socioeconomic impacts could occur. Where such impacts could occur, the PEIS will identify mitigation measures to eliminate, reduce, or compensate any adverse impact.